

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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FM USLO PEKING

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4117

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN CH

SUBJECT: PRIVATE TRAVEL TO PRC BY FSO BRODY AND WIFE

REF: A. PRAGUE 1734; B. PEKING 1313; C. PRAGUE 1842

1. UNLESS WE HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD SOMETHING, THE CHINESE HAVE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO GIVE VISAS TO BRODY AND WIFE ON THE STRENGTH OF A PERSONAL INVITATION FROM A FRENCH DIPLOMAT WHO AT THE TIME HE ISSUED IT ANTICIPATED ACTUALLY BEING THEIR HOST IN PEKING-- AND NOT ON THE STRENGTH SIMPLY OF VISA APPLICATIONS BY BRODY AND WIFE TO VISIT CHINA IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY SUCH INVITATION. IN LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED REFTEL C PERHAPS BRODY AND WIFE SHOULD TRY TO ARRANGE WITH PROSPECTIVE HOSTS TO VISIT CHINA AT SOME LATER TIME, WHEN THE HOSTS ARE SETTLED HERE AND IN A POSITION REALLY TO RECEIVE BRODY AND WIFE AS THEIR GUESTS.

2. IN PART BECAUSE WE WANT TO SPARE THE FRENCH DIPLOMAT THE EMBARRASSMENT THAT WOULD RESULT IF, AS SEEMS IS POSSIBLE, HE HAD NOT CHECKED THINGS OUT WITHIN HIS OWN BUREAUCRACY BEFORE ISSUING THE INVITATION TO BRODY AND WIFE, WE HAVE REFRAINED FROM DISCUSSING THE SITUATION WITH THE FRENCH EMBASSY. OUR OWN POLICY, HOWEVER, TOWARD PRIVATE VISITS IN THE STATUS OF PERSONAL GUESTS OF USLO STAFF MEMBERS IS THAT INVITATIONS FOR SUCH VISITS MAY BE ISSUED, OR RATHER FORMALIZED BY A LETTER THAT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESENTED TO THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, ONLY AFTER A STAFF

MEMBER IS ACTUALLY THAT: I.E. IS ON THE MISSION ROLLS.
AND AS HOST THE USLO STAFF MEMBER IS PERSONALLY
RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING
ACCOMMODATIONS AND THE VISITORS'S CONFORMITY WITH CHINESE
REQUIREMENTS ON SUCH MATTERS AS REGISTRATION AND
PERMISSION FOR ADDITIONAL TRAVEL. WHETHER OR NOT THE
FRENCH EMBASSY HAS A SIMILAR POLICY , OUR VIEW -- AND WE
SUSPECT THE CHINESE VIEW-- IS THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR
USLO TO GET IN THE MIDDLE OF SUCH ARRANGEMENTS ON
BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN GUESTS OF ANOTHER MISSION'S
STAFF MEMBER.

3. IF THE DESIRE OF BRODY AND WIFE TO VISIT PEKING AND
YET NOT IMPOSE ON THEIR NEWLY ARRIVED FRIENDS CANNOT BE
MET IN THE MANNER SUGGESTED IN SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 2
ABOVE, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THEY GO BACK TO THE CHINESE,
EXPLAIN THE CHANGED SITUATION, AND IN EFFECT RE-APPLY FOR
PRC VISAS AS JUST TOURISTS RATHER THAN AS GUESTS OF THE
FRENCH DIPLOMAT. SHOULD THE PRC ISSUE VISAS ON
THAT BASIS, THEN AFTER REPEAT AFTER RECEIVING THESE BRODY
COULD OF COURSE REQUEST HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS IN PEKING
BY MEANS OF A COMMERCIAL CABLE ADDRESSED TO: CHINA
TRAVEL SERVICE, PEKING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.
MENTION IN THE CABLE OF THE FLIGHT TO PEKING ON WHICH BRODY/DECLERK
HAVE CONFIRMED RESERVATIONS SHOULD SUFFICE TO ASSURE CTS
PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT.
BUSH

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